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high estimation of those excellent traits of character by which their deceased fellow member was so eminently distinguished.

Resolved,—That the Corresponding Secretary communicate to the family of the deceased, a copy of the foregoing resolution.

STATED MEETING, JANUARY 11, 1842.

VICE PRESIDENT MORTON in the Chair.

DONATIONS TO MUSEUM.

Forty species of Fossil Shells of the newer Pliocene beds at Undevalla in Sweden. From Dr. Morton.

Ammonites obtusus, *A. Parkinsonii* and *A. communis*, from the Lias of Lyme Regis, England. Presented by Dr. Morton.

Perca (*Percina*) *minima*, and *P. nebula*, (Haldeman) from the Susquehanna river. From Mr. S. S. Haldeman.

Two specimens of the *Fuligula minor* (Giraud), or Scaup Duck. Presented by Mr. J. G. Bell, of New York.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS.—A communication was read from Mr. Haldeman, describing two new species of the genus *Perca*, from the Susquehanna river, viz., *P. nebulosa*, and *P. minima*; which was referred to a committee.

A letter was read from Mr. J. G. Bell, of New York, dated January 8th, in which he offers some remarks on the two specimens of *Fuligula minor*, or lesser Scaup Duck, presented by him this evening. He states, that they have hitherto been mistaken for the common Scaup Duck, *Anas marila* of Wilson; and although Mr. Audubon figures this bird, and Wilson the larger one, these naturalists had supposed them to be spe-

cifically the same. He adds, that Mr. Audubon has now compared these two ducks, and is satisfied that they are distinct species.

Mr. T. A. Conrad read a paper intended for publication in the Journal, entitled, "Observations on the Silurian and Devonian systems of the United States, with descriptions of New Organic Remains." This memoir embraces descriptions of 103 new species, included in 21 genera, viz.

Avicula—23 species. Cypricardita, 6. Inocramus, 3. Microdon, 1. Mocolites, 2. Plurorynchus, 3. Strophomena, 21. Delthyris, 13. Orthis, 1. Atrypa, 6. Helicoceras, 1. Orthoceras, 1. Goniotites, 1. Belerophon, 3. Pleuratoma, 7. Euomphalus, 1. Loxonema, 1. Cyrtoceras, 1. Asaphus, 2. Calymene, 1.

The paper was referred to a committee with a view to immediate publication in the 2d part of the 8th volume of the Academy's Journal, now in press.

Professor Rogers announced that his brother Professor William B. Rogers, of Virginia, had recently satisfied himself of the geological age of the coal formation of the vicinity of Richmond; and also of the date of the Fredericksburg sandstone. The former he regards as nearly equivalent in period to the lias of Europe, and the latter to be referable to that of the oolite. The existence in the Richmond coal measures of the genus *Tæniopterus*, a race of plants strikingly characteristic of the lias, is one of the points upon which he rests his conclusions respecting that formation. A discovery in the Fredericksburg sandstone of fossil cycadæ and other organic remains, lead him to place this rock in the period of the oolites. He considers those the only formations yet recognised in the United States, which are referable to the ages of the European Lias and Oolite rocks.